

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

DRC-01 /086 W

----- 130320

R 021008Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4861

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, IS, JO

SUBJ: JERUSALEM MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS

REF: JERUSALEM A-131 DATED DEC. 27, 1973

1. UNOFFICIAL RETURNS (NOT INCLUDING SOLDIERS' BALLOTS) FROM DEC 31 JERUSALEM MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS INDICATE LABOR ALIGNMENT LED BY MAYOR TEDDY KOLLEK HAS LOST ABSOLUTE MAJORITY ON 31-MEMBER CITY COUNCIL, DROPPING FROM 16 TO 14 SEATS. OTHER RESULTS (WITH PREVIOUS SEATS IN PARENTHESES) WERE: LIKUD - 7 (6); NRP - 4 (3); AGUDAT ISRAEL/POALEI AGUDAT ISRAEL (RELIGIOUS) - 4 (5); INDEPENDENT LIBERALS - 1 (0); INDEPENDENT MERCHANTS - 1 (0). IRAQI IMMIGRANTS LOST ONE SEAT PREVIOUSLY HELD.

2. ALTHOUGH KOLLEK RAN WELL AHEAD OF ALIGNMENT KNESSET LIST IN JERUSALEM (WHICH ON BASIS PARTIAL RESULTS RAN BEHIND LIKUD HERE) LOW VOTER PARTICIPATION IN CITY POLL - ONLY ABOUT 50 PERCENT - PROBABLY HURT HIM MORE THAN LIKUD AND RELIGIOUS PARTIES. ANTICIPATED LOW ARAB VOTE, ONLY ABOUT 5,000 AS APPOSEDNPOH 8,000 IN 1969, UNDOUBTEDLY AFFECTED ALIGNMENT MOST. SEVENTY PERCENT OF EAST JERUSALEM VOTE REPORTEDLY WENT TO ALIGNMENT AND ONLY 8 PERCENT TO LIKUD.

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3. IN JAN 1 STATEMENT AIMED LARGELY AT HIS OWN PARTY'S LEADERSHIP KOLLEK, ACCORDING TO PRESS, SAID HE WAS "EXAMINING*THE POSSIBILITY" OF CONTINUING AS MAYOR AND ADMINISTERING CITY ACCORDING TO THREE PRINCIPLES HE HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED: ALL-PARTY COALITION; TOLERANCE TO ALL SECTIONS OF POPULATION; ABILITY OF MAYOR TO CHOOSE PEOPLE HE WORKS WITH. LATTER ISSUE WAS ALSO*BASIS OF KOLLEK'S PRE-ELECTION THREAT NOT TO RUN IF HE UNABLE HAVE MERON BENVENISTI AS DEPUTY MAYOR (JERUSALEM A-110 DATED SEPT 18, 1973). CONTROVERSY WITH PARTY LEADERSHIP WAS RESOLVED THROUGH DECISION TO INCREASE NUMBER OF DEPUTY MAYOR POSITIONS HELD BY LABOR, A SOLUTION THAT WOULD NO LONGER APPEAR FEASIBLE IN LIGHT OF LABOR'S REDUCED STRENGTH.
JONES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974JERUSA00004
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740167/aaaackwn.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: JERUSALEM A-131 DATED DEC. 27, 1973
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 AUG 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <29-Aug-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JERUSALEM MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, IS, JO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005